



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VIA Email: 70074-25811373@requests.muckrock.com

Mr. Jasper Craven
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70074
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

APR 18 2019

Re: FOIA Tracking Number **19-04798-F**

Dear Mr. Craven:

This is a response of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) dated February 27, 2019, in which you requested:

- All emails between Dr. Michael Fallon (Michael.fallon@va.gov), Gabrielle Saunders (Gabrielle.saunders@va.gov), Stephanie McGovern (Stephanie.mcgovern@va.gov), Jake Leinenkugel and all officials in VA leadership (<https://www.va.gov/opa/bios/>) concerning service dogs for PTSD between Jan. 1, 2017 and present day. Keywords include: "ptsd" "dog" "canine" "study" "results" "evidence" and "price."

By letter dated, March 15, 2019, the FOIA Service acknowledged receipt of your request and assigned it multiple FOIA tracking numbers. This response is for FOIA number **19-04798-F**, assigned to the Office of Information and Technology (OIT). Please refer to this number when communicating with the VA about this request.

You have been placed in the "news media" category, which means the requester is responsible for the fees associated with duplication, excluding the cost of the first 100 pages, which are free.

After a thorough search of our records, the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) found no responsive documents regarding your request for all emails between Dr. Michael Fallon (Michael.fallon@va.gov), Gabrielle Saunders (Gabrielle.saunders@va.gov), Stephanie McGovern (Stephanie.mcgovern@va.gov), Jake Leinenkugel and OIT leadership (<https://www.va.gov/opa/bios/>) concerning service dogs for PTSD between Jan. 1, 2017 and present day. Keywords include: "ptsd" "dog" "canine" "study" "results" "evidence" and "price."

You have the right to appeal this no records response if you do not agree with this determination.

You may appeal in writing to:

Department of Veterans Affairs
General Counsel (024)
810 Vermont Avenue
Washington, DC 20420

You may also submit your appeal via facsimile to (202) 273-6388 or via email to ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov. If you do appeal this determination, you must specify which part of the determination you are appealing. Please include a copy of your request and my letter with your appeal, and clearly state why you disagree with this determination. If you mail your appeal, both the front of the envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "FOIA Appeal". Please also include a daytime telephone number in case the Office of General Counsel needs additional information.

As an alternative to submitting an appeal, you may contact the VA FOIA Public Liaison, which was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and the VA. Using the VA FOIA Public Liaison does not affect your right to appeal.

You may contact the VA FOIA Public Liaison at:

Department of Veterans Affairs
VA FOIA Public Liaison (005R1C)
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420
Email: vacofoiaservice@va.gov; Telephone: (877) 750-3642; Fax: (202) 632-7581

As another alternative to submitting an appeal, you may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) whom was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal Agencies. Using OGIS does not affect your right to appeal. You may contact OGIS in any of the following manners:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives & Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov; Phone: (202) 741-5770; Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448; Fax: (202) 741-5769

This concludes the FOIA Service's response to your request. We appreciate your interest in the VA. If you have any further questions concerning this letter, you may contact Jacqueline Short of my staff at (202) 632-7426.

Sincerely,



Ms. Doloras Johnson
Director, VACO FOIA Service
Quality, Performance, and Risk (QPR)
Office of Information and Technology (OIT)